# **Integrity Matters**



providing information on regulatory matters to the general public and Outario Racing Commission clients

Winter 2003

## ORC approves new horse protection rules

New death registry first of its kind in North America

As part of an initiative to deal more aggressively with issues surrounding the health and welfare of the horse, the Ontario Racing Commission has approved new rules focused on the protection of the racehorse.

The Outario Racing Commission visual by possible to the relate to meing an part of its mandate and as such is taking very pro-active steps to essuring the animals have the protection they deserve, said Jean Major, Executive Director. We are encouraged to see the full support of the industry on the principles behind, these initiatives, in particular the death resistiv for horses.

### Death Registry

As of January 1st, 2603, ornaes, transers and venerinarias will be required to inform the ORC within two days of the death of any recebors where the death for any recebors where the death find of days of the horse having been entered to race or qualify at a supervised montrock in Outraio. In cases where the death has occurred within 14 days, a post-mortem will be mandatory. Beyond 14 days, a post-mortem will be required at the discretion of the Director of Racing.

Where a post-mortern is required, the licensee will be responsible for getting the horse to an approved postmortern facility. Failure to report a death will result in penalties.

It is anticipated that this death registry will assist the Commission in tracking, investigating and prosecuting cases of abuse or mistreatment of the horse and provide Commission staff with a valuable research tool.

### List of permitted medications published

The Commission also approved a revision to Rule 6.46 that further controls the use and possession of medications, drugs and substances on the mostrack... see page 3

# Hotline available to report abuse

Industry participants are encouraged to make use of the ORC's Integrity Horting at:

1-877-ONT-RACE (1-877-668-7223)

to make the Commission aware of specific instances of neglect or abuse. The Hotting does not require an individual to leave a name, nor will an individual be forced to testify.

# for the sake of the horse

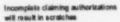
# Standardbred claiming rules revised

Concurns about the health and wetface of the home due to the high tumover of Standardbred receivores in claiming ruces has fed the Ostario Racing, Commission to adopt a new rule similar to one already in place for Thoroughbred racedoness.

For 30 days after a Thoroughbred horse is claimed, it can only be entered into claiming races where the value is 25% higher.

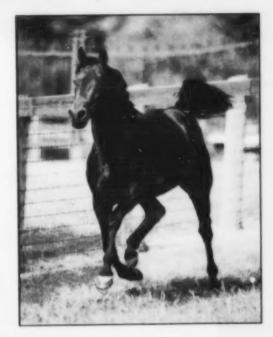
For Standardheed racing, the rule will be the Registry dotails a classed horse can only be entered back into a claiming race if the value to 20% higher.

This rule goes into effect February 1, 2003.



Effective February I, horses will be scratched where Standardbred B.5.01 has not been complied with in full. The rule states that no horse will be eligible to start in a claiming more unless the owner has provided written authorization. If the horse is owned by more than one party, all perties must sign the sufficients.

Race Secretaries have been reminded that they are suposable for censuring that all owners of a horse have signed the cleiming authorization form. Owners are allowed to submit the signatures as lies as one house before post time of the race. Where the authorizations have not been completed properly, the Judges will acrutch the horse.



### Mission Superment of the Onterio Record Commission

- To regulate all facets of the force racing troustry in a material

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- · Encourages belenced growth and economic development of



Ontario Racing Commission 20 Dundas Street W. 9th Floor Toronto, ON MSG 2C2 Publication Agreement 40005454

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## ORC approves new horse protection rules

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### Death Registry

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# Standardbred claiming rules revised

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### Mission Statement of the Ontario Racing Commission

To regulate all facets of the horse racing industry in a manner that:

- Promotes high standards of integrity, honesty, business practices and accountability.
- Protects and enhances the broader public interest.
- Protects the health and enhances the safety of the horse, and
- Encourages balanced growth and economic development of the industry.



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## Biosecurity and Horse Health Committee formed

industry to work together to deal with horse health issues

In consultation with the ORIC, the Ontario Horse Racing Industry Association has entablished a Biosecurity and Horse Finallia Committee to address there hashly insue through the prevention of consome diseases. While the imports for the committee areas out of onscens over the West Nile Virus, it became apparent that a broader collective was required that would hidren a number of diseases present in Ontario that can laver a significant impact on the horse racing industry.

The maralists of the Committee will be to provide recommendations regarding:

- biosecurity measures, to prevent the introduction of a disease onto a recreteck;
- a list of core diseases for which horses should be vaccinated:
- periocole on how these vaccines should be adarctioned (e.g. intransas) or intransacolar), frequency and acceptable vaccines;
- development of a vaccination history booklet or passport which would be kept up to date and become part of the papers that transfer with a horse;
- a requirement that each horse be vaccinated for horse diseases such as prizers, influenza and rhonomeumonitis;
- a list of recommended, but not required, disease vaccines;
- a requirement that all owners trainers bringing horses to the track show proof that the horse has been vaccinated for the core diseases.

The committee will be established to include representation from racetracks, the facese people a groups, Canadian Pari-Matual Agency. Ontacio Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Outsio Association of Equine Practitioners, and the Ontacio Racing Commission and may include representation from the Equine Research Centre and the Ontacio Veterinary College.

### Racetracks now required to submit backstretch Fire Safety Plans

New racetrack licensing requirements were recently approved by the Outario Racing Commission that will require all Outario mostracks to submit Fire Safety Plana, as part of their annual application for licensing.

To enhance health and safety in the backstretch areas and to bring consistency to fire safety procedures at all racetracks, tracks will be required to develop and subsuit a Fire Protection Plan and Safety Procedures document which will then serve as the initial step in addressing the issues narrounding backstretch fire safety. A guide outlining the areas which must be addressed was provided to racetracks. The purpose of this initiality is to ensure that common fire safety objectives are being rust across the province, while allowing tracks to develop individual relate.

As of 2003, the Fire Safety Plnos will be a requirement for a recetzack a race date application. Once approved by the Commission, each recetzack will then be required to comply with the plan as a condition of their license.

### Standardbred claims must now be submitted 1/2 hour before post time

Effective January 1, 2003 the time within which a claim for a Standard-bred horse must be submitted has been changed back to one helf hour prior to post time. Previously this rule had been changed to one hour before post. The change back to 40 minutes became possible due to other changes in the Rules.

# Nutrient Management Act passed in 2002

The Ontario Government is moving forward to establish province-wide standards for the management of materials containing nutrients, such as measure, to ensure clean, safe drinking water throughout Ontario. The Nutrient Management Act and its regulations will provide clean, consistent standards for agricultural practices that impact upon the ocvironment, especially as they relate to land-applied materials containing authients.

Horse farm and/or manfracks which fall under the provisions of the legislation may be sequired to develop notrient management plans to deal with the manure produced by the animals at those locations.

Further information can be obtained at worw.gov.on.ca/OMAFRA/english/ agopa index.html.



# Don't get caught without it!

All licensees are reminded to carry a valid and current ORC licence at all times in the stable area.

# Inappropriate use of medications can be fatal

by Bruce Duncan, DVM, Supervisor of Standardhood Commission Veterinarians

The death of a horse is always a tragic occurrence but it is especially so when the death results from stresponsible medication practices.

Certain known medications and enfurences, each as Vitamia K.I. and beavy metals, such as lead mercury or copper can cause the rapid coset of acute kidney damage, rosulting in des or humane destruction. Vitamin K3 is used as a treatment for E.I.P.H. or bleeding but because its can cause kidney tenicity, its use is entremely dangerous if not handled carefully Expensive use of Vit DO and non-steroidal anti-influenmetery drugs. such as Phenylliutazone, have also been implicated. Heavy metals are ably present in industrial grade DMSO which is known to be used remously and orally on horses.

It is always a risk to use any drug or medication on a horse flut does not have a DDN materber or that was not produced by a regulable drug company. The use of a drug that does not have information and directions for use for lorses is termed of f lobel use and should only be employed with sound veterinary advice.

Buying drugs from unicommed sources is also ruly. A sumber of positive drug tests have resulted from medications purchased through the laternest. These medications can contain other substances and may theseby result in the positive test.

Individuals should be wary of using drugs that have been produced by a drug compounding company, a company that makes up medications similar to known because drugs. The concentration of these preparations may be such stronger than the original

parent drug and can result in a positive test. These preparations may be quite enticing to use because they are often much changer. Veterinery advice ideald be obtained before these preparations are used.

Acother dangerous activity is administering a proparation in a form other than the one for which it was designed. An example of this would be changing an oral granule to a liquid and administering it intervenently. This practice can dramatically increase the drug a concentration with direconsequency.

The old adagn that if one is good, two will be twice as good, seldom works with any medication. Most drugs will produce serious sade effects if administered in higher levels than recommended or for extended periods of time.

A cosmoon practice three days in administrating several drugs or concitatin together within the same time frame. Drugs impact on each other and one drug may enhance the effect of another or dulay as necession than leading to toxic effects or positive tests. Likewise the use of distratics, withholding water, hat weather and/or howey training can all delaydrate: a horse and greatly alter a drug a effect or excertistic. Owniessky, great care and the sound advice of a veterineries are required before giving any medication to a horse.

Administering a preparation to a horse of unknown content, concentration or without professional advice is not recommended. The health and well-being of the home should be paramount in any medication decision.

# **Integrity Matters**

A publication of the Ontario Recing Commission, the provincial agency which governs, direct and controls house racing in any or all its forms in the Province of Ontario.

Stanley Subsety, Q.C.

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L'information dans de document es disponible en français.

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## List of Drugs, Substances and Medications

Established by the Director of Racing pursuant to Rule 6.45.1 and 6.46.2 in the Rules of Standardbred Racing and Rule 15.31.1 and 15.32.2 in the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing

The rules state in part that ... "a person ficensed as a trainer, owne or groom may possess or use a drug, substance or medication on a horse that is on a list established by the Director of Racing provided that such possession or use is not otherwise contrary to the Rules, the Food and Drugs Act and its regulations, the Pari-Mutual Betting Supervision Regulations, the Livestock Medicines Act and its Supervision Regulations, the Livestock Medicines Act and its regulations, the Health Disciplines Act and its regulations, the Veeninarians Act and its regulations, or any conditions to the sion and use imposed by the Director of Racing."

#### **General Horse Care Products**

The following substances may be used or possessed by a trainer, owner or groom provided that they are used solely for the purpose identified below, are otherwise permitted for use in Ontario without restrictions or prohibitions by steatine, regulation, rule, directive or otherwise, and, where evallable, are used in accordance with the structions of the manufacturer or distributor.

- (pine tar, tenolin, pouttices, gelatin, MSM, Special Formula)
- leg and muscle products (linements, paints, blisters)
- vitamin mineral amino-acid electrolyte preparations
- spelie simulants
- (Fowlers solution or similar appetite stimulants)
- éve aide
- ogeseve acos (Pepto-Biamol or similar digestive aids)
- respiratory sids (Zav. Windaid or similar respiratory aids)
- analgesics and anti-inflammatories for which a prescription from a veterinarian is not required
- (Bute, Banamine or similar analgesics or anti-inflammatories)
- (Ivernectin, Strongid or similar anthelmintics)
- external parasite control products
- (fly spray, griseofulvin or similar products)
- diuretics and urinary preparations
- (Buca leaves, sal-palmetto or similar preparations)

### **Drugs or Medications that Must be Prescribed** and/or Dispensed by a Veterinarian

The following drugs or medications may be used or possessed by a trainer, owner or groom provided that they are used solely for the horse for which the drug or medication was prescribed, are used in accordance with the instructions provided by the veterinarian who issued the prescription or dispensed the drug or medication, are not an injectable and the use will not result in a positive test or is not otherwi prohibited by statute, regulation, rule, directive or otherw

- (penicillin, Tribiesen and similar antibiotics)
- anti-inflammatories
- (Viox, Ketaprofen and similar anti-inflemmatories)
- (Azium, Prednisone and similar steroids)
- respiratory drugs
- bronchodilator inhalants
- (salbutamol, ventipulmin and similar inhalants)
- anti-allergic inhalants
- (flovent and similar inhalants)
- nebulizer fluids
- (chromoglycate and similar fluids)
- expectorants
- (sputolysin, glycaryl, guiacolate and similar expectorants)
- diuretics
- gastric acid inhibitors
- (Cimitidine, Gastrogard and similar inhibitors)
- sedatives and tranquilizers
- (atravet, diazepem and similar sedatives and tranquilizers)
- muscle relaxants
- (Robaxin, Dantrolene and similar muscle relaxants)
- - (Isoxuprine and similar vesodilators)

Any questions regarding this rule and/or the list of drugs, substance and medications should be made to the Director of Racing Terry Stone at (416) 327-0520.

## Racehorse deaths must now be reported

New ORC rules require licensees to notify the ORC upon the death of a racehorse

ng January 1, 2003, owners, trainers and veterinarium will be required to inform the ORC within two days of the death of any exceluses, where the death has occurred within 60 days of the horse laving been entered to more or qualify at a supervised strack in the Province of One

- In cases where the death of a receivers has occurred within 14 days, 2 post-mortem will be mandatory
- Beyond 14 days, a post-mortem may be required at the discretion of the Director of Racing.

If a licensee owns or trains a horse which dies under these circumstances, the licensee must contact the Commission Veterinarian at the closest operating racetrack.

The Commission Veterinarius will provide the ligenous with the necessary information on how to proceed.

It is the licensee's responsibility as the owner or tenever to ensure that the horse is transported to the post-morters facility and that inform by the ORC is provided.

### Approved Post-mortem Facilities

#### Guelph

**Animal Health Laboratory** Laboratory Services Division University of Guelph 519-824-4120, ext 54502 519-821-8072 Fax

### Kemptville

Animal Health Laboratory Laboratory Services Division University of Guelah 613-258-8320 613-258-8324 Fax

### Death Registry

As detailed by the Standardbred Rules of Racing In the Thoroughbred Rules of Racing, these rules appear as Rule 15.32.1 through 15.32.9

6.47.1 If a horse dies within 14 days of it being entered or qualified to race, the trainer of record at the time of the death of the horse shall:

- a) inform the Director of Racing, or a person designated by the Director of Racing, in writing within 2 days of the death of the horse that the horse has died, and the location and premises where the horse died.
- b) provide copies of any reports prepared by the veterinarian(s) who treated the horse prior to its death.
- c) transport the horse at the trainer's or owner's expense immediately, or as soon as transportation can be arranged but in any event no later than 2 days of the death of the horse, to a facility approved by the Director of Racing for a post-mortem and such testing as the Director of Racing may determine is appropriate, and
- d) instruct the person conducting the post-mortem and the testing to provide the results of the post-mortem and testing and any reports prepared with respect to the post-mortem and testing to the Director of Racing within 5 days. of their completion. 6.47.2 Where there is no trainer

of record at the time of the death of the horse, the owner of the horse

- a) inform the Director of Racing, or a person designated by the Director of Racing, in writing within 2 days of the death of the horse that the horse has died, and the location and premises where the horse died,
- b) provide copies of any reports prepared by the veterinarian(s) who treated the horse prior to its death.
- c) transport the horse at the owner's expense immediately, or as soon as transportation can be

arranged but in any event no later than 2 days of the death of the horse, to a facility approved by the Director of Racing for a postmortem and such testing as the Director of Racing may determine is appropriate, and

- instruct the person conductdi ing the post-mortem and the testing to provide the results of the postmortem and testing and any reports prepared with respect to the ost-mortem and testing to the Director of Racing within 5 days of their completion.
- 6.47.3 If a horse dies after 14 days but within 60 days of it being entered or qualified to race, the trainer of record at the time of the teath of the horse shall
- a) inform the Director of Racing, or a person designated by the Director of Racing, in writing within 2 days of the death of the horse that the horse has died, the location and premises where the horse died and the cause or apparent cause of death, and
- b) provide copies of any reports prepared by the veterinarian(s) who treated the horse prior to its death or who determined the cause or apparent cause of death and of any post-mortem or other teets conducted on the horse to detail nine the cause of death
- 6.47.4 if a horse dies after 14 days but within 60 days of it being entered or qualified to race. and there is no trainer of record at the time of the death of the horse. the owner of the horse shall
- a) inform the Director of Racing, or a person designated by the Director of Racing, in writing within 2 days of the death of the horse that the horse has died, the

# **West Nile Virus Update**

Information provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food

2002 has seen a rapid spread of West Nile View (WNV) southward and wastward in the United States. In Canada, the virus loss been found throughout Outario, including the ters and northern regions as well as in Quebec, Manitobs and Saskatchewan. Clinical cases in horses have been reported this rummer in couttwestern Outgrio and Magatoba Recause of the potential for serious Classe from this virus in some people and houses, the Ostatio Missistry of Houlth and Long-term Care (MOHLTC) and the Ostario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) want to remand horse owners of some busin information and nervestive measures they can take to reduce the risks of WNV infection.

### Background

WNV is one of many causes of central nervous system disense in the horse, including viral, bucterial, parasitic, developmental or traumatic disease. Clinical signs may be similar to other neurologic diseases, including rabios. Signs of illness is horses may include staxia, difficulty walking, knockling over, head tilk, musc fwitches or tremon, mubility to stand circling, weakness or paralysis of limbs, apparent blindness, lip droop, grinding teeth and death. Humans can also become infected with WNV from mougatoes, but are not as asscriptible as acress to developing clinical discase. Infected horses do not pose a

A number of clients are inquiring

how to diagnose or confirm WNV in their home(s). Owners are reminded that the signs exhibited in borses with WNV are similar to those some with horses suffering from a number of opine diseases, including rabies, tem opsios encephalitis and wobblen syndrome. In a case where a home dies or a rathenesed, rabies must he ruled out. The Canadian Food Impection Agency must be notified of a rabies suspect. Confirmation of a diagnosis of WNV in a live horse requires that two blood samples be taken (an scate and a convalencent) three weeks apart and submitted together to the laboratory. Confirm of WNV in a dead horse requires that a sample of the brain stem be submitted to the laboratory either chilled or frozen

Contact you veterinarian for advice regarding prevention of these and other diseases. More information on WNV prevention is available from your local public health Unit, or from one of the following resources. For more information on viral encophalitie in horses, refer to the information sheet Equine Viral Encephalitie at giving ground CMAA Finingfult Transick harves from info-egoviral laformation Contact Centre 1, 377-124-1300.

Dr. Paul Innes Epidemiologial

Dr. Bob Wright Vaterinary Scientist

Livestock Technology Branch, Oritatio Ministry of Agriculture and Food What symptoms should I be looking for? WNV infection in horses affects the central nervous system Symptoms range from Iselescenes, trembling, depression, loss of appetite, stumbling and leck of coordination, weakness, head tilting and perfal paralysis, to convulsions and even deeth. Fever occurs in 25% of cases. These symptoms can appear very rapidly and are similar to other nervous system diseases including rables and equine encephalitis. Up to one-third of all horses showing clinical

signs of WNV will die.
Consult your velerinarisn immediately if you observe any symptoms of WNV or other nervous system disease in your horse. Your velerinarisn will begin supportive treatment, collect samples and request laboratory tests to identify causes of the disease. In the case of death, a post mortem examination and follow-up testing is recommended.

### Can I protect my horse?

A WWV vaccine, available through your veterinarian, has been conditionally approved for use in horses. The vaccine is safe and shown to be effective in laboratory tests but has not undergone the complete testing required for final

The initial vaccination requires two injections three to six weeks apart followed by an annual booster. A booster vaccination every six months is recommended for horses at higher risk, such as those travelling to areas of the U.S. or other countries where mosquito populations survive year-round. For full protection, vaccinations should be initiated two months prior to the start of the mosquito season.

Talk to your veterinarian about a complete vaccination program to protect your horse from WNV and other dispasses.

Pro-active Steps to protect you and your horse

- Consult your veterinarian about vaccinating your horse for WNV and other diseases.
- Eliminate potential mosquito breeding areas on your property.
- Add extra protection to avoid mosquito bites. Use flyspray, a flysheet and flymask on your horse.
- Refrain from outdoor activities during peak mosquito activity times at dawn and dusk.
- Protect yourself by wearing light coloured long steeved shirts and long pants. Use a mosquito repellent containing DEET (N,N-diethy-m-tolusmide). Be careful to read and follow all label directions for use.

### General Information

### MOHLTO

www.gov.on.ca/health/english/program/pubhealth/ wnv\_mn.html

### Health Canada

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pphb-dgspsp/wrv-vwn/index.html

### Ontario Ministry of Agriculure and Food

www.gov.on.ca/OMAF/english/livestock/vet/disease\_pub.html

# Death Registry Rule

location and premises where the horse died and the cause or apparent cause of death, and

 b) provide copies of any reports prepared by the veterinarian(s) who treated the horse prior to its death or who determined the cause or apparent cause of death and of any post-morten or other tests conducted on the horse to

determine the cause of death.

6.47.5. If a horse dies after 14
days but within 60 days of it being
entered or qualified to race, the
Director of Racing may order the
trainer of record at the time of the
death of the horse or the owner of
the horse if there was no trainer of
the horse if there was no trainer of
the horse to transport the horse to
a facility approved by the Director
of Racing for a post-mortern and
such testing as the Director of

Racing may require to be conducted on the horse at the expense of the trainer or owner, as the case may be. The trainer or owner, as the case may be, shall instruct the person conducting the post-mortem or teating to provide the results of the post-mortem and testing and any reports prepared with respect to the post-mortem and testing to the Director of Racing within 5 days of their completion.

6.47.6 If a horse being treated by a veterinarian diss within 60 days of being entered or qualified to race, the vetasinarian shall inform the Director of Racing, or a person designated by the Director of Racing, in writing within 2 days of the death of the horse that the horse has died, the location and premises where the horse died and the cause or apparent cause of

6.47.7 The Director of Racing or the Executive Director may:

 a) charge a trainer, owner or veterinarian with a failure to comply with the requirements under this Rule, and

b) upon notice, impose a fine, period of suspension of a licence or such other penelty as is appropriate in the circumstances on that trainer, owner or veterinarian or impose conditions on the Scence of that trainer, owner or veterinarian. Where the Director of Racing or Executive Director of Racing or Executive Director does so, the trainer, owner or veterinarian may request a hearing before a panel of the Commission.

6.47.8 The Director of Racing may approve a facility to conduct a post-mortem and testing if:

 a) the Director of Racing is satisfied that the facility is adequately equipped and secure to carry out the post-mortern and testing.

the post-mortem and testing, b) the Director of Racing is satisfied that the facility operator is competent and that the individuals who will carry out the post-mortern and testing have the requisite training and professional designations or requirements to do so, including a veterinary pathologist, and

c) the facility operator and the Director of Racing have entered into an arrangement, memorandum of understanding or agreement with respect to, among other things, the standards for the carrying out of and reporting on the post-mortern and testing, the confidentiality and use of the results of the postmortern and testing and any reports prepared therefrom, including use for research purposes for the betterment of racing, protection of horses and their health, and enforcement purposes.

6.47.9 The Director of Racing may provide or cause to be provided to Associations, Standardbred Canada, The Jockey Club or similar entities information that a horse had died and date of death.

